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Amendment and Response to Office Action  
Mailed: October 31, 2006

**Amendments to the Claims**

The following is a complete listing of the claims, which replaces all previous versions and listings of the claims.

1. (Currently amended) A method of compute clustering, comprising:  
Identifying a defined cluster, the cluster including a plurality of receptors in a chassis, each receptor configured to couple the chassis to a network device, at least one of the plurality of receptors in the cluster being unoccupied by a network device;  
storing the physical locations associated with each of the plurality of receptors;  
and  
wherein storing the physical locations includes storing the physical location associated with the at least one receptor in the cluster that is unoccupied by a network device;  
receiving a designation that a selected one of the plurality of receptors is a master receptor; and  
receiving an image designated as a master image for the selected receptor.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving an image designated as a default image for the plurality of receptors in the cluster.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, further comprising:  
associating the default image with the at least one receptor in the cluster that is unoccupied by a network device.

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4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the image comprises a physical location identifying software that operates to configure the plurality of receptors in the cluster.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1, wherein the master image comprises a physical location identifying software that operated to configure the selected receptor.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
detecting the presence of a network device coupled to at least one receptor in the cluster that was previously unoccupied; and  
in response to detecting the presence, automatically installing an image on the network device, the image comprising a default image designated for the plurality of receptors in the cluster.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
detecting the presence of a network device coupled to at least one receptor in the cluster that was previously unoccupied; and  
generating a message displayed to a user over a graphical interface, the message providing the user with the option of installing a default image on the network device, the default image designated for the plurality of receptors in the cluster.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
detecting the presence of a network device coupled to at least one receptor in the cluster that was previously unoccupied;  
reading an image associated with the network device;

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determining that the image associated with the network device is not a default image designated for the plurality of receptors in the cluster; and  
overriding the image by installing the default image on the network device.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
detecting the presence of a network device coupled to at least one receptor in the cluster that was previously unoccupied;  
reading an image associated with the network device;  
determining that the image associated with the network device is not a default image designated for the plurality of receptors in the cluster; and  
generating a message displayed to a user over a graphical user interface, the message providing the user with the option of installing the default image on the network device.

11. (Currently amended) Compute clustering software embodied in a computer-readable medium and operable to:  
identify a defined cluster, the cluster including a plurality of receptors in a chassis, each receptor configured to couple the chassis to a network device, at least one of the plurality of receptors in the cluster being unoccupied by a network device;  
store the physical locations associated with each of the plurality of receptors, and  
wherein storing the physical locations includes storing the physical locations associated with the at least one receptor in the cluster that is unoccupied by a network device;  
receive a designation that a selected one of the plurality of receptors is a master receptor; and  
receive an image designated as a master image for the selected receptor.

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12. (Original) The software of claim 11, further operable to:  
receive an image designated as a default image for the plurality of receptors in  
the cluster.
13. (Original) The software of Claim 12, further operable to:  
associate the default image with the at least one receptor in the cluster that is  
unoccupied by a network device.
14. (Original) The software of Claim 12, wherein the image comprises a physical  
location identifying software that operates to configure the plurality of receptors in the  
cluster.
15. (Canceled)
16. (Currently amended) The software of Claim ~~[[15]]~~ 11, wherein the master  
image comprises a physical location identifying software that operates to configure the  
selected receptor.
17. (Original) The software of Claim 11, further operable to:  
detect the presence of a network device coupled to the at least one receptor in  
the cluster that was previously unoccupied; and  
install an image on the network device, the image comprising a default image  
designated for the plurality of receptors in the cluster.
18. (Original) The software of Claim 11, further operable to:  
detect the presence of a network device coupled to the at least one receptor in  
the cluster that was previously unoccupied; and

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generate a message displayed to a user over a graphical interface, the message providing the user with the option of installing a default image on the network device, the default image designated for the plurality of receptors in the cluster.

19. (Original) The software of Claim 11, further operable to:  
detect the presence of a network device coupled to the at least one receptor in the cluster that was previously unoccupied;  
read an image associated with the network device;  
determine that the image associated with the network device is not a default image designated for the plurality of receptors in the cluster; and  
override the image by installing the default image on the network device.

20. (Original) The software of Claim 11, further operable to:  
detect the presence of a network device coupled to the at least one receptor in the cluster that was previously unoccupied;  
read an image associated with the network device;  
determine that the image associated with the network device is not a default image designated for the plurality of receptors in the cluster; and  
generate a message displayed to a user over a graphical user interface, the message providing the user with the option of installing the default image on the network device.

21. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented graphical user interface operable to:  
receive information from a user identifying a defined cluster, the information including the physical locations associated with a plurality of receptors in the cluster, each receptor configured to couple to a network device, at least one of the plurality of receptors in the cluster unoccupied by a network device; and

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graphically present the information to the user; wherein graphically presenting the information includes presenting physical locations associated with the at least one receptor in the cluster that is unoccupied by a network device;

receive a designation that a selected one of the plurality of receptors is a master receptor from the user; and

receive an image designated as a master image for the selected receptor from the user.

22. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 21, further operable to: receive an image from a user designated as a default image for the plurality of receptors in the cluster.

23. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 22 further operable to: graphically associate the default image with the at least one receptor in the cluster that is unoccupied by a network device.

24. (Original) The graphical user interface of Claim 22, wherein the image comprises a physical location identifying software that operates to configure the plurality of receptors in the cluster.

25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) The graphical user interface of Claim ~~[[25]]~~21, wherein the master image comprises a physical location identifying software that operates to configure the selected receptor.

27. (Canceled)